

**IN THE ABSTRACT**

Please replace the abstract with the following new abstract:

A system for providing a subscriber database using group services in a telecommunication system. The system comprises a switch for executing call processing applications and N call application nodes for executing subscriber database server applications. A first subscriber database server application is executed on a first call application node and a second subscriber database server application is executed on a second call application node. The first and second subscriber database server applications form a subscriber database load sharing group server application. When a subscriber database service request is received, the subscriber database load sharing group server application selects one of the first and second subscriber database server applications to perform the subscriber database service request according to a load distribution algorithm.